Mr. SPEAKER.—The Hon. member need not fear that it will lapse. I shall hold it over and take it up later.

Sri D. B. KALMANKAR.—The Chief Minister should be pulled up, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER.—There are about 30 questions. Let us not lose time. I assure the House that I shall find out the reasons for the delay when the Chief Minister comes. In the mean while we shall proceed further.

Sri N. B. SIRDESAI.—There are 5 to 6 questions in today's list pertaining to the Chief Minister, Sir.

Sri S. SIVAPPA.—Nobody from the Treasury Bench has requested you to defer the question. It is a joint responsibility.

Sri K. PUTTASWAMY.—You were pleased to say that the Question will be held over. Therefore there was no question of representation from this side.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The Hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs may kindly ascertain the difficulty for the Chief Minister to come here in time.

Sri H. N. NANJE GOWDA.—May I know that my question will be taken up later, Sir?

Mr. SPEAKER.—Immediately the hon. Chief Minister comes, it will be taken up.

Appointment of Village Accountants

229. Sri K. R. NADGOUDA (Yadgir).—

Will the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state :—

(*a*) (i) the number of Village Panchayats in Yadgir Taluk having Village Accountants and

(ii) how many are yet to have them ;

(*b*) the difficulty being experienced by Government to appoint Village Accountants ;

(*c*) the steps taken to appoint Village Accountants immediately ?

Sri H. V. KOUJALGI (Minister for Revenue).—

(*a*) (i) 69.

(ii) None.

(*b*) No difficulty.

(c) Government have decided to separate the cadre of Village Accountants from the cadre of Panchayat Secretaries. The Deputy Commissioners have been requested to report the number of Village Accountants required on the basis of revenue work only but ensuring that each charge includes complete Village Panchayats.

Sri K. R. NADGOUDA.—Most of the villages in Yadgir taluk do not have village accountants and panchayet secretaries.

Sri H. V. KOUJALGI.—So far as panchayats are concerned, we are not concerned whether the Panchayats have paid secretaries or not. So far as village accountants are concerned, according to the new formula, for a demand of Rs. 15,000 of land revenue, a village accountant will have to be appointed. That is the principle. So, if there are any villages where there are no village accountants, they will be appointed shortly.

Sri J. P. SARWESH.—May I know how long it will take to appoint these Village Accountants ? Will the Hon. Minister assure that they will be appointed this year before 31st December 1969 ?

Sri H. V. KOUJALGI.—They will be appointed as early as possible.

ಶ್ರೀ ನದಾಶಿವಪ್ಪ ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಗ್ರಾಮ ಲೆಕ್ಕಿಗರನ್ನು ನೇಮಿಸಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರಿಗಿರುವ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳೇನು ಎಂದು ಕೇಳಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ಯಾವ ತೊಂದರೆಯೂ ಇಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದೀರಿ. ಹಾಗಾದರೆ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ಯಾವ ನಿರ್ಧಾರವನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದೀರಿ ?

Sri H. V. KOUJALGI.—At first the policy was that the Village Accountant should be appointed as Village Panchayat Secretary as well as Village Accountant. Now the Government have changed that view. They want him to be only as Village Accountant and not aa Village Accountant and Panchayat Secretary.

Sri D. B. KALMANKAR.—May I know when it was decided and how much time it will take to settle this matter once and for all and appoint Village Accountants ?

Sri H. V. KOUJALGI.—They will be appointed very shortly.

Sri H. N. NANJE GOWDA.—The hon. Minister was pleased to state that Government had nothing to do with the appointment of Village Panchayat Secretaries. I want to know whether it is not a fact that under the Act the Deputy Commissioner has to appoint Panchayat Secretaries and so is it not the responsibility of the Government ?

Sri. H. V. KOUJALGI.—Though the Deputy Commissioner appoints them, he does so as a subordinate of the Development Department and not as an officer of the Revenue Department.

Sri H. N. NANJE GOWDA.—Now the Hon. Chief Minister has come, I request my question No. 159 may be permitted to be put.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Yes.